



Esteban BOVO, Jr.

Miami-Dade County Commissioner | District 13



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Dear Neighbors and Friends

Thank you for being part of my mailing list. I invite you to read this month's newsletter where you will find information about upcoming county services for the month of July, June in review and other important community updates.

If you would like to submit a community invitation or update for our next newsletter, please email us at District13@miamidade.gov.

Sincerely,

Esteban Bovo, Jr.
County Commissioner
District 13



COMMISSIONER'S UPDATES

Welcome Back to School!

Summer is over and it's back to school time! May all of the students, teachers, faculty and staff have a wonderful school year filled with extraordinary education and experiences.

"Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one."~Malcolm S. Forbes .



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District Office:

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Suite 101
Hialeah, Florida 33014
(305) 820-8424
Fax: (305) 820-8340

Alina Garcia

Mobile Constituent Hours

Our office will be holding mobile office hours every second Monday of every month in order to meet with constituents in the Miami Lakes and Palm Springs North region of District 13.

Executive Director
agar@miamidade.gov

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Commission Aide
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Alex Annuziato
Legislative Director
AlexA@miamidade.gov

Community Events

Hialeah
13th - Council Meeting
27th - Council Meeting

Miami Lakes
13th - Council Meeting

Palm Springs North
13th - Civic Association
Meeting

[Visit our Community
Calendar](#)

Stay Connected

Join Our Mailing List!



Monday, July 8th from 1-3pm Monday, July 8th from 3-5pm
Miami Lakes Library Branch Palm Spring North Branch
6699 Windmill Gate Road 17601 NW 78th Avenue
Miami, FL 33014 Miami FL, 33015

Should you need any assistance with Miami-Dade County issues or have any concerns that you would like to address with Commissioner Bovo, please come out and meet with him. No appointments are necessary.

FROM THE DAIS

Urging the Mayor to explore Savings to keep libraries OPEN



Miami-Dade County Commissioner Esteban Bovo, Jr. is urging Mayor Carlos Gimenez to explore cost savings to keep more libraries open and to provide more details regarding the impact of proposed library budget cuts to residents in his district.

Palm Springs North Branch Library, which occupies a storefront at 17601 NW 78 Ave. in District 13, is one of the 22 County libraries that have been identified by the Mayor's office for possible closure.

Commissioner Bovo has requested the Mayor's office to:

- Provide current usage data and operating costs for the Palm Springs North Branch Library
- Determine the possible savings to the County if the Town of Miami Lakes were to opt out of the County's library district and take over the operating expenses for the Miami Lakes Branch Library (which is not slated for closure)
- Consider using existing County-owned facilities as small branch libraries instead of leasing private storefront space, as the City of Hialeah now does successfully
- Consider any commercial uses that may be introduced to our library system that could generate additional revenues for our libraries such as commercial bookselling and food vendors

"While my first priority remains with protecting the taxpayers, I believe that those of us in County government must explore every alternative before laying off employees or closing library facilities. Perhaps now is the time to reinvent our libraries," Commissioner Bovo said. "While the library concept has evolved over the years, libraries are a lifeline to many in our community who simply do not have access to the Internet or other information platforms. Additionally, many of our hardworking library employees often serve as the only adult mentor in the lives of our community's young people."

Statement from Commissioner Esteban Bovo Jr. regarding animal care initiative

I am pleased that Mayor Carlos Gimenez has dropped his request to raise a portion of

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COMMBOVO
to **22828** to get started.



Message and data rates may apply.

the millage rate to fund the animal care initiative, but I firmly believe that the County Commission owes it to Miami-Dade taxpayers to explore alternative funding sources. As we begin considering different options to fund this initiative, I plan to present a resolution to create a mechanism for private fund raising and voluntary donations that has County oversight and accountability to ensure money is properly spent for animal welfare. The Parks Foundation is an excellent precedent and model for fulfilling intent and spirit of last year's animal welfare ballot question.

The non-binding straw ballot question that was put forth to voters on the Miami-Dade November 2012 ballot asked whether the County should raise property taxes to help fund enhanced animal services in our community. Sixty four percent of voters supported the question posed and the idea of saving pets' lives. Unfortunately, the voters were given only one choice to make: raise taxes to provide for animal welfare or let the pets die. As an owner of two Golden Retrievers, I am committed to working to achieve the goal set out by the Straw Ballot Question.

However, using a millage increase to fund enhanced animal services sets a very dangerous precedent and invites philanthropic organizations to pursue future non-binding straw polls as a vehicle for funding. A few weeks ago a representative from the Little Havana Activities and Nutrition Centers, an organization that delivers meals to some of our community's most needy seniors, testified before the County Commission that it was facing serious financial constraints and would be curtailing services due to a lack of county funding. There are dozens of these worthy funding needs yet the County turns away many of these deserving organizations citing a lack of public dollars.

The people of Hialeah, Miami Lakes and the rest of District 13 elected me to make tough decisions and to act as a steward of their hard earned tax dollars. I owe it to them to ask tough questions and exhaust all other options before raising taxes is considered. No straw poll will ever relieve me of that responsibility.

EKG as part of Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation

At the July 16th BCC Meeting, the County Commission approved a resolution sponsored by Commissioner Esteban Bovo, Jr. urging the Florida Legislature to require Florida high school student athletes to undergo an Electrocardiogram (EKG) as part of their pre-participation physical evaluation.

"This type of legislation will save student athletes' lives," Commissioner Bovo said.

The lack of electrocardiograms for Florida high school student athletes came to the public's attention when the student athlete Ramiro "Toti" Mendez died on April 2, 2000 at the age of 20. Ramiro, a baseball player at Florida International University, lost his life after suffering a sudden heart attack caused by Viral Cardiomyopathy. His mother, Maruchi Mendez, has been a vocal advocate for legislation requiring electrocardiograms for student athletes. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, an estimated 2,000 young adults under the age of 25 die of sudden cardiac arrest each year in the United States.

Section 1006.20 of Florida Statutes currently requires the Florida High School Athletic Association (FSAA) to mandate that all student athletes satisfactorily pass a medical

evaluation each year prior to participating in interscholastic athletic activity, but it doesn't require an EKG.

JULY IN REVIEW

Spay/Neuter and Discounted Adoption Event



On Sunday July 21st, Commissioner Bovo with the help of the Cat Network, Miami-Dade County Animal Services, the ASPCA Community Partnership, and the City of Hialeah, almost 100 cats and dogs were spayed and neutered. There were also 5 dogs that found a new loving home.



"It is unacceptable that a third of the animals taken in by the Miami-Dade County animal shelter are needlessly euthanized because they are not adopted. In order for our County to reach its goal of eliminating this distressing statistic, we must be proactive in working with our community partners to spay and neuter stray animals and to encourage adoption. I applaud the Cat Network for joining forces with the Miami-Dade County Animal services as part of the ASPCA Community Partnership, and I will do everything I can for our County to reach its goal," said Commissioner Bovo.

Commissioner Bovo "Working for You" with Animal Services Department

On Monday, July 15th, 2013, Commissioner Esteban Bovo, Jr. continued his "Working for You" campaign with a visit to the Miami-Dade Animal Shelter. Commissioner Bovo joined the Animal Services Department staff on a tour of the facilities to better understand the needs of our pets.

Animal Services Chief of Operations & Enforcement, Kathleen Labrada, led Commissioner Bovo Jr. on a tour of the facility to show him the kennels where animals waiting to be adopted spend their time. Bovo also toured the front counter to see the process of adoptions first hand, the clinic where animals are brought back to health and the drop off location where unwanted animals are received.

"I chose to visit this department to gain a real perspective of the day-to-day struggles of our animals and staff at the shelter," said Commissioner Bovo. "Visiting the euthanasia

room, where I saw a dog and a cat euthanized, was a heartbreaking experience. There are no words to describe it. I will continue to work closely with our Animal Services Department to create and implement new ideas where we can reduce and eventually eliminate needless euthanizing."

Click on the image to see the complete albums



Taping of Facing South Florida with Rowan Taylor and Michelle Steele of Metro-Dade IAFF Local 1403 and Jim DeFede.

Click on the image to watch the video.



With members of "Proyecto Emilia" at the Jose Marti memorial at Hialeah Walker Community Center



Senator Rene Garcia and Commissioner Bovo meeting with members of "Proyecto Emilia" to listen to their cause.



With the help of Miami-Dade County Transit and the Town of Miami Lakes, we were able to assist over 40 seniors renew and apply for their Golden Passport.

COUNTY SERVICES

iSwim for Jenny



The Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade and the Swim for Jenny Memorial Fund invite swimmers of all ages, abilities and skill levels to participate in iSwim for Jenny, a week-long fundraising event at participating Miami-Dade Parks and community pools, August 10-16, 2013.

Swimming must be done at your neighborhood community pool with lifeguard** and/or one of the Miami-Dade Parks aquatic facilities/donation collection sites, listed below:

AD Barnes Pool
3401 SW 72 Avenue, Miami, FL
305-665-1626

Palm Springs North Pool
901 NW 176 Street, Miami, FL
305-558-3762

South Dade Pool (Helen Sands)
16350 SW 280 Street, Miami, FL
305-248-1386

Tamiami Pool
11201 SW 24 Street, Miami, FL
786-315-5295

****To register your swim team at a different pool than those listed above, or to register your community pool as an official site for the iSwim for Jenny, please contact Jim O'Connor at A.D. Barnes Pool at (305) 665-1626**** All donations must be turned in at one of the four approved Miami-Dade Parks' aquatic facilities/donation collection sites listed above on August 16 between 1 and 4 p.m.

Nationally, drowning is the second-leading cause of injury-related death among children ages one to 14. Florida has the second-highest number of drowning incidents in the U.S. and Miami-Dade County leads the state in drowning deaths with an average of 45 a year.

For more information, please visit [here](#).

Hurricane Preparedness

Are you Ready?

The 2013 hurricane season is here and it is our job to be prepared. Making a hurricane plan ahead of time and having the vital supplies will go along way toward helping you and your loved ones in the event of a storm. Please check the official [hurricane guide](#) for tips for before, during and after a storm.

Important facts for you to know:

- There are three Hurricane Evacuation Centers in our district including Lawton Chiles Middle School, Barbara Goleman Senior, and Country Club Middle.
- There is a [Emergency Evacuation Assistance Program \(EEAP\)](#) to assist anyone who is unable to evacuate and/or shelter on their own.
- Proper [tree and shrub pruning](#) before a hurricane approaches can help eliminate major damages to your property by reducing the debris that can become airborne.

Board of County Commissioner Combined Newsletter

Beginning in May 2013, an e-newsletter will be publishing news and events in the

Office of the Chair and Commission districts. The newsletter will be disseminated on the first and third Wednesday of every month to [portal subscribers](#) who specifically sign-up to receive news alerts on the Board of County Commissioners.

Please visit <http://miamidade.gov/wps/portal/Main/members> to subscribe with the Miami-Dade County Portal.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

City of Hialeah

Department of Public Works

July 30, 2013

Re: Low Pressure and No Water Service

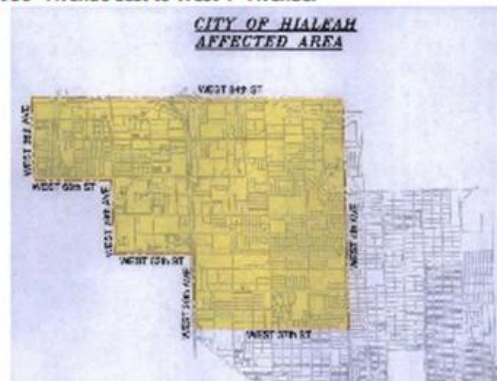
Dear Customers:

The Department of Public Works will be performing work on the 24" Main Water Line at the intersection of West 44th Place and West 4th Avenue on:

August 5, 2013 from 10:00pm to 5:00am

Residents in these areas will have low pressure and/or no water service during this period of time. The service will be restored at 5:00am on August 6, 2013.

This affects the areas from West 37th Street north to West 84th Street and areas from West 36th Avenue east to West 4th Avenue.



We appreciate your understanding and patience while we maintain and complete the project. Your normal water service will resume once the work has been completed.

If you have any questions concerning this temporary change in water service, please feel free to call the Department of Public Works at 305-556-3800.

City of Hialeah
Department of Public Works

3700 W. 4TH AVENUE • HIALEAH, FLORIDA 33012-4298
TELEPHONE: (305) 556-3800



Carlos Hernandez
Mayor

Isis Garcia-Martinez
Council President

Luis Gonzalez
Council Vice-President

Council Members
Jose F. Caragol
Vivian Casals-Munoz
Katharine E. Cue-Fuente
Paul B. Hernandez
Lourdes Lozano



Armando Vidal, P.E.
Director

The poster features a dark background with two men in MMA gear. On the left, Carlos Hernandez is in a black long-sleeved shirt and red gloves. On the right, Michael Pizzi is in a blue long-sleeved shirt and blue gloves. The text is arranged as follows:

- Top left: City of **HALEAH**
- Top right: **MIAMI LAKES** Growing Beautifully
- Center: **MMA MAYHEM AT MILANDER** (yellow text)
- Below that: **MAYOR vs. MAYOR** (large red text)
- Below that: **Carlos Hernandez** (orange and white text) and **Michael Pizzi** (orange and white text)
- Below the names: Presented by: **NUTRIFORCE SPORTS** (green and white logo)
- Center text: Mixed Martial Arts fights with an 8 bout card culminating in the
- Below that: **ISKA** (red and white logo)
- Right side: **MAYORS' BOUT FOR CHARITY MAIN EVENT** (white text on a black circular background)
- Bottom text: On Friday, September 6th, 2013, Mayor Carlos Hernandez will challenge Town of Miami Lakes Mayor Michael Pizzi to a Mixed Martial Arts fight for charity at the new Milander Center for Arts and Entertainment. This amateur MMA event begins at 7pm and includes 8 bouts, culminating in the "Mayoral fight." Proceeds from this historic event will go to *Best Buddies International* and the *Miami Lakes Town Foundation, Inc.* **Click here to purchase your tickets!**

If you would like to submit a community invitation or update for our next newsletter, please email us at District13@miamidade.gov

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